

## **TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH**

### **Town Council Agenda Items**

**Meeting Date:** July 2, 2012

**Agenda Item Number:** 6c

**Subject:** Planning Consultant Proposal

**Summary of Information:**

I researched planning services in the region and found that there are very few entities that provide that service. There is Holland Consulting Planners, Inc., and the Cape Fear Council of Governments (COG), and they appear to be the only two that provide general planning services to local governments. The other organizations that provide planning services provide project, or site, specific services such as what we are getting through Withers & Ravenel.

Overall, the COG does a creditable job, but for this particular service they have a limited capability given the size of their organization and budget, and the fact that they have several counties to cover. I believe that we should go with a private firm.

That brings us back to Holland Consulting Planners who provides these services through Landin Holland with support from Dale Holland. Despite the occasional criticism, the Planning Board is satisfied with the services provided by Holland. Mr. Holland has a BS in Urban Planning, an MA in Public Administration, and has AICP designation (American Institute of Certified Planners). He has several years of experience in land planning, and now has built local area and Town ordinance knowledge while developing a history working with the Town over the last three years. It is staff's belief that the Town should continue to retain them for these services.

Attachments: (X) Yes ( ) No

TOWN ADM: (X)    DEPT. HEAD (X)